

REMARKS

Claims 23 and 24 are currently pending in the present application.

In the Specification

The specification has been amended herein to properly reflect the government support of the present application. In particular, page 1 of the specification has been amended to recite that the present invention was supported in part by US Government funds (National Institutes of Health grant Nos. HL69182 and DE13248), and the US Government may therefore have certain rights in the invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the omission of the government support information was inadvertent, and that the specification is hereby amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b)(3). Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by way of the present Amendment.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are fully supported in the specification as filed and that the specification has merely been amended herein to update the government support information of the present application. No new matter has been added by way of the present Preliminary Amendment.

Favorable examination of the claims is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

18-MARCH-2005

Date



THOMAS M. SOSSON, JR., Ph.D.
REGISTERED PATENT AGENT
Registration No. 48,463
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP
One Logan Square
18th and Cherry Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6996
Tel: (215) 988.2562
Fax: (215) 988.2757
Agent for Applicants